

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRAGUE 01336 141057Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 /020 W
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R 141010Z MAY 76
FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
TO USDOC WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 235

UNCLAS PRAGUE 1336

COMMERCE FOR BEWT/TDAD (BOWIE)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BDIS, BTIO, CZ

SUBJ: CZECHOSLOVAK PURCHASES OF COMPUTER EQUIPMENT

REF: USDOC WASHDC 08057

1. AS A START TO INVESTIGATE REFTEL ALLEGATION, ON MAY 13 EMBOFF CALLED CONTACT IN FEDERAL MINISTRY OF TECHNICAL AND INVESTMENT DEVELOPMENT AND ASKED HIM IF CZECHOSLOVAK GOVERNMENT HAD ISSUED A POLICY SAYING THAT IT WOULD ONLY BUY FROM SELECTED COMPUTER MANUFACTURERS. CONTACT SPECIFICALLY SAID THAT HE HAD HEARD OF NO SUCH POLICY AND THAT CZECHOSLOVAKS WOULD BUY COMPUTERS FROM ANYONE OFFERING THE RIGHT PRICE AND COULD PROMISE DELIVERY.

2. EMBASSY WILL FOLLOW UP WITH FORMAL LETTER TO FMTIR AND WILL MAKE CONTACT WITH IOVO TO GET AS MUCH INFORMATION AS WE CAN CONCERNING PRESENT CZECHOSLOVAK POLICY.

3. EMBASSY COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THAT IT IS POSSIBLE THAT CZECHOSLOVAKIA HAS DECIDED TO ATTEMPT SOME STANDARDIZATION IN THEIR COMPUTER PURCHASES; HOWEVER, WE HAVE NOT SEEN OR HEARD ANYTHING ABOUT REFTEL ALLEGATION. ACCORDING TO SPERRY UNIVAC REPRESENTATIVES (A COMPANY NOT EVEN LISTED IN REFTEL AS MAJOR VENDOR TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA) THEY HAVE OVER FIFTY PER CENT OF THE COMPUTER MARKET IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA. TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, THEY HAVE SEVERAL MAJOR ORDERS FROM
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CZECHOSLOVAKS WHICH PRESENTLY AWAITING APPROVAL FOR EX-

PORT. THEREFORE, IT APPEARS THAT AT LEAST THE LIST OF AP-
PROVED VENDORS IN REFTL IS INCOMPLETE.
PERRY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Draft Date: 14 MAY 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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